



**Code: 9168**  
Family: Public Safety  
Service: Public Safety  
Group: Police Service  
Series: Police General Duty

## **CLASS TITLE: POLICE OFFICER (ASSIGNED AS MARINE OFFICER)**

### **CHARACTERISTICS OF THE CLASS**

Under supervision, assignments are within the Marine Operations Unit which is responsible for patrolling over 90 miles of natural and artificial waterways within the City limits such as the Cal-Sag Channel, Calumet River, Chicago River, Chicago Sanitary & Ship Canal, and several other waterways and approximately 17 miles of lakefront. These patrols ensure a safe and environmentally responsible use of the City's waterways by residents and tourists (boating, sailing, fishing and swimming (where allowed), as well safe and responsible use by commercial shipping (tourist boats, commuter boats, freight shipping, and movement and placement of construction equipment, etc.).

Carries out standard police duties such as traffic control, security (boats, docks, waterfront buildings), enforcing regulations ranging from proper registration to DUIs, dock maintenance, etc., and responds to and resolves (including the making of arrests, and/or issuing fines) incidents ranging from disputes, theft, illegal sales of narcotics, violence, as well as illegal activities related to dumping of garbage, fuels and other chemicals, illegal run-offs from factories, warehouses, and residents. In addition, conducts water rescue operations, body recovery, evidence recovery and documentation.

Positions assigned to this classification must maintain other requirements, knowledge, skills, and abilities for successful performance in the Police Officer class.

### **ESSENTIAL DUTIES**

- Patrols Chicago's waterways to ensure security, smooth water traffic flow especially in high traffic areas such as the Chicago River, where there are architectural tours, pleasure boats, water taxis, paddle craft, and barges moving industrial goods
- Enforces the Municipal Codes of Chicago and Illinois State Statutes and works in conjunction with BACP as they issue the license such as boat registration, and inspect required licensing for charter, tourist and commuter boats (water taxis) and ships, etc.
- Ensures compliance with maritime safety laws regarding operation of canoes, kayaks, motor boats, sail, commercial shipping, etc. Examples include ensuring canoes and kayaks and other boats have proper lighting and/or reflective material for nighttime operation, radio, etc., general rules on condition of water craft, wearing of life jackets and availability of life jackets for every person on a boat, etc.
- Ensures vessel safety by conducting safety inspections on vessels based on observed concerns, or random audit process. In cases where there are issues, may provide verbal warning and require minor issues to be addressed within a specific time period, or issue fines and provide specific dates to address more complex issues.
- Supports and notifies USCG on issues regarding areas such as environmental compliance regarding fuel, motor oil leaks, illegal dumping of garbage or waste water from boats, as well as dumping, chemical and waste run-off from riverfront properties. Ensures proper notification to the USCG if appropriate. Supports the Coast Guard with investigations in areas where there on a federal waterway or coastline. CPD does have ability to enforce and fine.
- Removes dead and decomposing bodies (human, animal) from Chicago's waterways

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- Responds to and enforces laws regarding safe operation, which may include arrests and/or fines (speed, watercraft violations, operation while under the influence)
- Carries out police activities involving accidents, disputes, and criminal activity (theft, drug traffic, and other water related crime scenes and water related death investigations)
- Provides direct public safety service such as responding to and making responsible life-saving efforts to active drowning incidents, responding to and assisting with boat accidents, boat fires, sinking vessels, and mayday incidents (coordinates with CFD and Coast Guard)
- Performs search and rescue functions for vessels and people in distress, as well as providing rafting and towing of disabled vessels
- Provides first response during any major maritime disaster, and acts as the initial lead in managing the disaster. This effort includes assessment, determining the amount of additional support required and coordinating with other agencies such as the Coast Guard, CFD (fire, hazmat issue)
- Performs underwater vessel hull searches for explosive devices in conjunction with Explosive Technicians, and performs Homeland Security functions
- Provides security, traffic control, and other related duties during special events such as a sponsored boat race, or parade of sail boats / antique classic boat event, or a boat rally supporting a specific cause
- Appears in court and presents testimony
- Routinely maintains / cleans / ensures operational readiness (preparing lines, knot tying, line-splicing, checking engine fluids) of Marine Unit vessels, vehicles, equipment, and unit facilities
- Ensures vessel is fully stocked with safety and rescue equipment such as first-aid kits, life jackets and ring buoys, other water rescue items such as throw bags, rescue tube, reel, float marker, knives and cutting tools, and inflatable rafts with corresponding equipment (inflator, paddles, etc.) that may be used in areas where the boat cannot reach or maneuver effectively such as shallow and / or narrow water areas. (Note; some of the items listed above are for rescue or to support diver in search and rescue efforts.)
- Maintains required training and / or certification to operate as a diver and rescue swimmer (CPD Public Safety Diver endorsement) qualify for approved heavy weapons, operate marine vessels in general and in all types of weather conditions, operate basic video surveillance equipment, radio / communication equipment, and other types of equipment. Examples include radar, sonar/depth finders, GPS Navigational systems, cameras, underwater communications systems, and operate heavy dive truck (CDL), etc.
- Interacts with public and other agencies in a professional and courteous manner, conduct informal water safety training at meetings held by boating and / or fishing organizations, and stay abreast of and maintain operating familiarity with civilian water craft and sailing vessels

**NOTE:** *The list of essential duties is not intended to be inclusive; there may be other duties that are essential to particular positions within the class.*

**MINIMUM QUALIFICATIONS****Education, Training, and Experience**

- Be a Police Officer below the rank of Sergeant, have a minimum of three (3) years of continuous service as a Police Officer with the City of Chicago, including completion of the probationary period
- Be willing and able to perform the duties of a Police Officer (Assigned as Marine Officer), work any watch assignment and change work hours in accordance with collective bargaining agreement

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- Must have an acceptable disciplinary and attendance record
- Must meet acceptable medical roll usage guidelines
- Be willing to purchase and maintain equipment and accessories unique to the assignment of Police Officer (Assigned as Marine Officer)

**Selection process and Training program**

- Must successfully complete each component of the Swimming Skills Test such as a surface swim covering a specific distance and completed within a specific time, retrieve and surface with an object with a specific weight, tread water in place for a fixed period of time). NOTE: There are certain test such as Swimming Skills that are subject to changes
- Complete an oral interview that covers areas such as prior vessel or marine related experience, training, certifications or licenses; scuba related experience, training and certifications, etc.
- Successfully complete 26 weeks intensive New Diver Training for the Marine Officer and an additional 6 months continuing training on, attaining all endorsements.

**Licensure, Certification, or Other Qualifications**

- Must maintain the ability to safely handle and use a Department approved firearm
- Upon appointment to Police Officer (Assigned as Marine Officer) the following certifications/licenses must be maintained:
  - o Merchant Mariner's License to operate vessels
  - o Basic open water scuba card from SDI up to Dive Master or Instructor
  - o Rescue Diver, and will also receive certifications for specialized equipment (AGA Mask, Dry Suit)
  - o May require certification as CPD Public Safety Divers
  - o Must successfully pass Ice Diving Certification class
  - o Must maintain Illinois Department of Public Health First Responder License or above

**WORKING CONDITIONS**

- Marine Boat and Marine Facility
- Assignment anywhere within the boundaries of the City of Chicago
- Assignment Duty hours may be any time. Department operates twenty-four (24) hours a day, every day of the year, including weekends and recognized holidays
- Interact with public in a variety of situations
- Diving and swimming in contaminated water
- Exposure to outdoor weather conditions including extreme weather situations
- Exposure to hazardous or life-threatening situations
- Diving in overhead environments, confined spaces, and under the ice

**EQUIPMENT (including but not limited to)**

- Computers and peripheral equipment (e.g. personal computer, computer terminals, mobile data computers)
- Two-way radio
- Handcuffs

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- Personal defense weapons (Baton, Tasers, Handguns, Rifles, etc.)
- Specialized safety equipment (e.g., bulletproof vests)
- Transportation (Marine Boat, inflatable raft, dive truck)
- Specialized rescue equipment related to the person being rescued, as well as equipment to assist rescuer in search and rescue efforts
- Specialized equipment for ice rescue operations
- Boat radio equipment, various types of radar/sonar such as depth finders, sector and side scan sonar, underwater communications system, Forward Looking InfraRed cameras, night goggles, underwater communication systems, remote operated vehicle, underwater metal detectors, navigational tools (GPS).
- Dry suit, dry-suit gloves, Full Face Mask, BCD with redundant air supply

**PHYSICAL REQUIREMENTS**

- Using muscular force to lift, carry, drag, push or otherwise move objects using strength in one's arms, hands, back, shoulders and/or legs
- Performing physical activities with skill, speed and balance efficiently and with little wasted motion
- Using the necessary force to restrain a person when making an arrest
- Quickly bending, stretching, twisting, or reaching out with one's body, arms, and/or legs
- Standing for extended or continuous periods of time
- Sitting for extended periods of time
- Swimming and rescue in all types of weather conditions
- Working in a two to five person crew aboard vessel in close quarters for extended periods of time
- Safely and lawfully operate marine boat and related equipment such as dive truck
- Hearing and recognizing the normal range of sounds in terms of loudness, pitch, tone, patterns or rhythms, or duration
- Remaining alert or vigilant and reacting to infrequent but important events or specific details within a stream of information (e.g., alarms, radio)
- Seeing detail at various distances (e.g., normal reading distance, beyond arm length) and reading ordinary/small print
- Annually, must pass all required swimming tests
- Annually, must pass diver physical approved by the department
- Safely and efficiently remove themselves unassisted from water too deep to stand in while wearing all required public safety diver equipment

**SKILLS, ABILITIES, AND OTHER WORK REQUIREMENTS****Knowledge**

Considerable knowledge of:

- Water Rescue operations
- Water Recovery operations
- Operation of equipment related to search and rescue, and recovery
- Marine Boat operation and the various radio, radar, sonar devices

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- Specialized equipment related to water rescue operations
- Marine Officer policies and procedures

Good knowledge of:

- Public safety and security procedures and strategies to effectively enforce laws and protect lives and property
  - Federal, State and City criminal and traffic laws and ordinances and related departmental policies and General Orders, as well criminal, traffic and safety policies related to water craft, docks, boat licenses
  - Practices and procedures used in community policing
  - Geographical locations in the City of Chicago and the City Waterways
  - Traffic operations on City Waterways
  - Various types of watercraft used on Chicago Waterways such as paddle craft, motor boats, sail boats, water taxis, tugs and barges, etc.
- Knowledge of applicable City and department policies, procedures, and regulations

**Skills**

- \*CRITICAL THINKING – Use logic and reasoning to identify the strengths and weaknesses of alternative solutions, conclusions or approaches to problems
- \*COMPLEX PROBLEM SOLVING – Identify complex problems and review related information to develop and evaluate options and implement solutions
- \*JUDGEMENT AND DECISION MAKING – Consider the relative costs and benefits of potential actions to choose the most appropriate one
- \*ACTIVE LEARNING - Understand the implications of new information for both current and future problem-solving and decision-making
- \*RESOLVING CONFLICTS AND INFLUENCING OTHERS - Resolve disputes between groups and individuals; negotiate with others to influence behaviors, opinions; deal effectively with various members of the public; handle upset and injured victims, get people to cooperate
- \*ORGANIZATIONAL AWARENESS AND COMMITMENT - Remain firm in one's allegiance to the Department's core values and faithful in pursuit of the Department's mission despite obstacles or opposition; follow Department policies and regulations and show support for their intent and value; demonstrate positive regard for the Department and personal role; show respect for members in positions of authority; work in a chain-of-command environment
- \*SERVICE ORIENTATION – Actively look for ways to help people
- \*SOCIAL PERCEPTIVENESS – Be aware of others' reactions and understand why they react as they do
- WATER RESCUE SKILLS – Be able to carry out search and rescue operations
- MECHANICAL SKILLS – Related to boat operation and maintenance, rescue equipment

**Abilities**

- \*COMPREHEND ORAL INFORMATION – Listen to and understand information and ideas presented through spoken words and sentences
- \*PUBLIC SPEAKING - Make formal presentations before large or small audiences
- \*SPEAKING – Communicate information and ideas in speaking so others will understand

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- \*ACTIVE LISTENING – Give full attention to what other people are saying, taking time to understand the points being made, asking questions as appropriate, and not interrupting at inappropriate times
  - \*COMPREHEND WRITTEN INFORMATION – Read and understand information and ideas presented in writing
  - \*WRITE – Communicate information and ideas in writing so others will understand.
  - \*MEMORIZATION – Remember information such as words, numbers, picture, and procedures
  - \*RECOGNIZE PROBLEMS – Tell when something is wrong or is likely to go wrong
  - \*REACH CONCLUSIONS – Combine pieces of information to form general rules or conclusions (includes finding a relationship among seemingly unrelated events)
  - \*MAKE DECISIONS AND SOLVE PROBLEMS – Analyze information and evaluate results to choose the best solution and solve problems

**Other Work Requirements**

- \*ANALYTICAL THINKING – Analyze information and use logic to address work or job issues and problems
- \*ATTENTION TO DETAIL – Pay careful attention to detail and thoroughness in completing work tasks
- \*COOPERATION – Be pleasant with others on the job and display a good-natured, cooperative attitude
- \*CONCERN FOR OTHERS – Demonstrate sensitivity to others' needs and feelings and be understanding and helpful on the job
- \*SELF CONTROL – Maintain composure, keep emotions in check even in very difficult situations, control anger and avoid aggressive behavior
- \*STRESS TOLERANCE – Accept criticism and deal calmly and effectively with high stress situations
- \*PERSISTENCE – Persist in the face of obstacles on the job
- \*DEPENDABILITY – Demonstrate reliability, responsibility, and dependability and fulfill obligations
- \*INITIATIVE – Demonstrate willingness to take on job challenges
- \*INTEGRITY – Be honest and avoid unethical behavior
- \*ADAPTABILITY/FLEXIBILITY – Be open to change (positive or negative) and to considerable variety in the workplace
- \*LEADERSHIP - Demonstrate willingness to lead, take charge, and offer opinions and direction

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All employees of the City of Chicago must demonstrate commitment to and compliance with applicable state and federal laws, and City ordinances and rules; the City's Ethics standards; and other City policies and procedures.

The City of Chicago will consider equivalent foreign degrees, accreditations, and credentials in evaluating qualifications.

\* May be required at entry.